



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEACHER, YOUTH VOLUNTEER PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD PORN

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Bradley J. Schlozman, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a former teacher and youth volunteer has pleaded guilty in federal court to charges related to producing and distributing child pornography.

Waylon J. Kaus, 26, of Lebanon, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. Chief Magistrate Judge James C. England on Wednesday afternoon to all charges contained in a March 8, 2006, federal indictment. **Kaus** is a former teacher at Ozark Children's Academy in Ozark, Mo., and was the scoutmaster for a local Boy Scout troop. **Kaus** has also worked for an area Head Start program and for the public school district in Buffalo, Mo.

Kaus admitted that he induced or coerced a minor male to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing child pornography on Aug. 13, 2004. **Kaus** also admitted that he distributed child pornography over the Internet on Dec. 22, 2005, that he received child pornography over the Internet on May 2, 2004, and that he was in possession of computer hard drives and disks that contained child pornography on Feb. 7, 2006.

By pleading guilty, **Kaus** also agreed to forfeit to the government any property used to commit the offenses, including three computers, a laptop computer, a digital camera, and CDs and disks containing child pornography that were seized from **Kaus** by law enforcement officers.

Under federal statutes, **Kaus** could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years in federal prison without parole, up to 30 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000, for producing child pornography; a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in federal prison without parole, up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000, for distributing and for receiving child pornography; and a sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000, for possession of child pornography.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rose A. Barber. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Lebanon, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html